

# Bulletin

MAY 6th, 1948

NISAN 27, 5708

## Annual Service of Liturgical Music, May 7th Testimonial, Reception for Rabbi and Cantor

### Contemporary Composer Works To Be Performed

The musical contributions of two distinctive cultures, that of Palestine and America, will be blended into one harmonious program when the Sixth Annual Service of Liturgical Music by Contemporary Composers is presented by Cantor David J. Putterman and Choir under the direction of Max Helfman, on Friday, May 7th, at 8:30 p.m.

While the United Nations has focused the attention of the world on the Palestine issue, Cantor Putterman has conceived the idea of dedicating this year's service to "The Faith of Israel" and "Zion's Dream". He has therefore invited some of the foremost composers of Palestine, who are at present visiting this country, together with some of our best known American composers, to set to music texts which reflect the Longing, the Sacrifice, the Faith, the Resolve and the Vision of the Rebirth of a Nation. Some of the texts are: the "Prophecy of Isaiah"; "Longing for Jerusalem" a poem by Judah Halevi, Spanish philosopher and Hebrew poet of the eleventh century; the dramatic concluding text of Theodore Herzl's "The Jewish State" which reads in part: "I have faith that a wondrous generation of Jews will

(Continued on Page 3)

### Honor Rabbi Steinberg, Cantor Putterman on 15th Year; Judge Rifkind to Speak; Chorus and Drama to be Presented

Every member of The Park Avenue Synagogue is expected to attend the Reception and Testimonial to Rabbi Milton Steinberg and Cantor David Putterman on the occasion of the fifteenth anniversary of their association with the Synagogue, which will take place on Sunday evening, May 23rd. The reception will start in the Vestry at 7:15 p.m., and will last until 8:20 p.m., allowing the guests of honor to return to the Synagogue itself before

8:30, where the testimonial ceremonies will take place. Refreshments of a light character will be served in the Vestry only during the reception hour. Because of the large number of people who will want to participate, admission to the Synagogue will be by ticket only and all members of the Synagogue will receive their tickets in the mail.

Mr. Saul Godwin, chairman and Mr. I. M. Cohen, co-chairman of the committee for arranging the Testimonial, have had the help of a number of hard-working chairmen of sub-committees. The chairman of the Program Committee, Mr. Sanford Cohen, has announced that the principal address of the evening will be made by Judge Simon L. Rifkind, a member of the Board of Trustees of the congregation. Mr. Milton Weill, also a Board member, will be master of ceremonies. The presentation to Rabbi Steinberg will be made by Dr. E. D. Friedman, president of the congregation; and to Cantor Putterman by Mr. Benjamin Sack, chairman of the Board. The Vinner Chorus has been engaged to perform several numbers, primarily to honor Cantor Putterman and his place in the musical life of the Jewish Community. Mr. Morton Wishengrad, well-known to radio audiences for his beautiful and subtle writing for The Eternal Light programs of the Jewish Theological Seminary, is writing a special dramatic presentation about Rabbi Steinberg, cul-

(continued on page 4)

### Square Dance Initiates New Teen-Age Socials

A new development in Teen-Age activities is planned for Saturday evening, May 8th, at 7:45 when the first Jamboree for those from 13 to 17 years of age, will be held in the Vestry.

A committee of the Parents' Association, headed by Mrs. I. E. Gevirtz has arranged for Tex Lightning and his Square Dealers to play for social and Square dancing. Fred Leifer of the Village Barn and Television Station WABQ will act as Caller for the evening.

This Jamboree is a forerunner of monthly events for all Teen-Agers tentatively scheduled to begin next Fall, under the sponsorship of the Parents' Association. Because admission is by invitation only, those Synagogue affiliates wishing invitations are asked to communicate with Mrs. I. E. Gevirtz, 9 East 96th Street, N. Y. C.

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

*Sabbath Eve* ..... Friday, May 7th, 8:30 p.m.

#### Annual Liturgical Service

*Sabbath Morning* ..... Saturday Mornings, 10:00 a.m.

*Bachurim* Group at 10:00 a.m.; Junior Congregation Service at 10:00 a.m.

Musical portion of Service under direction of Cantor Putterman, assisted by choir. Mr. Isidore Geller at the organ.

*Daily Evening Worship* ..... 5:45 p.m.



## THE PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE BULLETIN

is published bi-weekly from  
September to June by

THE PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE  
50 East 87th Street, New York 28, N. Y.  
Tel. SAcramento 2-8765

D. LEONARD COHEN  
*Chairman, Publications and  
Publicity Committee*

DUDLEY L. GREENSTEIN  
HAROLD E. WARSHAW  
*Editors*

LOUIS I. HELLER  
MARILYN HITTNER  
SELMA JERSKEY  
JO LEVY  
JUDY STRASBURGER  
BEULAH W. WARSHAW  
*Staff*

HOWARD KIEVAL  
EVELYN ZUCKERMAN  
*Contributors*

Vol. 2

No. 15

## From the Desk of Rabbi Steinberg

This week my column is given over to reproducing a letter to *The Nation*, written by Thomas Mann, one of the truly great minds and spirits of our age, and reproduced by permission of *The Nation's* editors.

The letter speaks for itself, and with a passion and eloquence which should leave you, as it has left me, humble and grateful.

—MILTON STEINBERG

"Dear Sirs: I have been asked for my opinion of the decision of the United States to withdraw its agreement to the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine—a stand which had been initiative of and responsible for the decision of the United Nations.

"It is difficult for me, an American citizen of short standing, to say that this reversal, this undignified surrender to brazen Arab threats, is the most humiliating and shocking political event since the democracies betrayed Czechoslovakia in 1938. It is an act of despicable and low expediency, a murder of faith and loyalty. It makes us realize, with considerable alarm, how far the ideals of democracy—truth, liberty, justice—have been degraded, how they have been abused to serve the naked interests, not of a people, for the American people is benevolent and just, but of a group striving ruthlessly for power and profit which has imposed its will upon our government.

"Has anyone considered the blow this deplorable decision has dealt the authority of the United Nations and its ability to maintain world peace? One cannot help feeling that the prospective betrayal of a people which has endured boundless suffering and is yearning for justice, the breach of hundreds of official promises, has brought us one step nearer to world disaster.

"The small Jewish state in Palestine would have been a democracy of people willing to work and striving for culture. It should have had, as a matter of course, the sympathy of a country with American traditions. Why have we been condemned everywhere to support the bad, the foul reaction, that which the people hate—in this instance the feudalism of Arabian oil magnates—and to ruin democracy while pretending to defend it?

"It is a grave responsibility how to advise, how to encourage the Jews. I leave it to others to spur them to a desperate continuation of bloodshed, to the defense of their already established state—under the notorious embargo which gives arms to the Arabs but not to them. Perhaps the indignant outcry of a moral world will lead to a revision of the shameful decision. If not, it proves that the immense disappointment of all hopes for a better, juster world has turned to apathy, to a number submission of mankind to the threatening disaster.

"As for us intellectuals, we can only protest in the derisive words of Flaubert, that despiser of humanity: 'Ah, le progres, quelleblague! Et la politique—quelle salete!' (Ah, progress—what humbug. And politics—what filth.)"

THOMAS MANN

Pacific Palisades, Cal., March 25

## Congregants Asked To Aid Scholarship Fund

Mrs. Jesse Haas, chairman of the *Torah* Scholarship Fund of the Synagogue, has announced that circulars have been mailed to the members of the congregation requesting checks in multiples of \$6.11, which sum represents the total word value of the word *Torah*.

The money thus raised will be sent to the Jewish Theological Seminary to be used for the scholarship needs of its students as well as for many of the other worthwhile activities carried on by the Seminary.

## Junior Congregants To Conduct Services

The Junior Congregation, made up primarily of children between the ages of nine and thirteen, and the *Bachurim* Group, our newly formed teen-age religious group, will present their annual service on Saturday morning, May 15th, at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Synagogue.

This service, which has become an important event in the tradition of our Synagogue will be conducted, as usual, by the children themselves. Those members of the Junior Congregation who will participate are: Kenneth Geist, Sandra Gevirtz, Donald K. Holzman, Neil Janovic, Ruth Kertzer, Harriet Levin, Menorah Liebowitz, Robert Rifkind, Marilyn Schneider, Sylvia Schneider, David Steinberg and Doris Wimpheimer. Special portions of the service will be taken by members of the *Bachurim* Group. The participants will be: Franklyn Davidson, Richard Druss, Evan Janovic, and Hugh Levy. Two members of the group, Hannah Salomon and Jonathan Steinberg, will deliver brief messages.

Prior to the conclusion of the service, prizes for outstanding scholarship and perfect attendance in our Religious School as well as Junior Congregation attendance awards will be distributed.

The service has been prepared and directed by Mr. Sanford Hahn who has been the leader of the Junior Congregation for many years.

Members and friends of the congregation are urged to attend and to bring their children to worship at this special service.

## For Your Information

The thanks of the Congregation are extended to Mr. Bernard Prensky for his gift of forty pounds of Manischewitz *matzoh* for use by the children at their model *Seder*.

The Daily Evening Worship which began on April 25th, has gotten off to a good start and will continue each evening at 5:45 p.m. This also includes the summer months which begin soon. All congregants are urged to attend this short service as often as possible.



## Synagogue Women Work To Meet High UJA Goal

The women of the Sisterhood, the Parents' Association, and the Young Marrieds, have joined together this year in the campaign of the Womens' Division for the United Jewish Appeal. A committee of thirty women under the chairmanship of Mrs. Ruth G. Brodsky, are working untiringly in this historic battle for Jewish dignity and freedom. In cooperation with UJA headquarters they have secured a representative attendance at fund raising functions in five financial categories. At these functions for contributors of \$1,200 and over, \$520 and over, \$260 and over, \$150 and over, \$52 (a dollar a week) and over, the splendid generosity of those attending was gratifying. Many of the women who were invited, and who were unable to attend, sent substantial contributions, with the result that at present the net total for the Womens' Division of the Park Avenue Synagogue is \$38,000.

The hope of Mrs. Brodsky and her committee in reaching the goal set depends upon those whose contributions they will now strive to secure. Unless each future contributor doubles or triples her gift of previous years, they cannot succeed. Everyone is interested in maintaining the magnificent reputation of the Park Avenue Synagogue in the annual UJA campaign, but this year they are far more concerned with helping those whose desperate plight is now the concern of the entire civilized world.

Every American Jewess must recognize her personal responsibility to world economy and world peace, to long suffering Jews in Europe, to valiant fighters in Palestine. Seventy-five thousand Jews will be evacuated from Europe this year. The Jews of Palestine could live peaceably and comfortably, were they not risking their homes and lives for the Jews who have come and who will continue to come.

The Jews of America are at the present time their only ally. It is therefore our duty and privilege to aid them in the battle for their destiny and ours.

The Committee is asking that every woman in the Congregation give no less than 10c a day, which amounts to \$36 a year. It is hoped that every woman

## Sisterhood Speaks

Members of the Sisterhood are planning a most unusual Spring Event to be tendered to the patients of one of the hospitals on Welfare Island, on Thursday, May 20th.

Mrs. Sarah Botein Bernstein, Chairman of the function, has instructed all members wishing to participate, to meet her at the Welfare Island Ferry at the foot of 79th Street and East River Drive at 12:30 p.m.

A very enjoyable program of entertainment has been planned for the patients of the hospital, and refreshments, which Sisterhood will provide, will be served. Each one of the party participants from the hospital will receive a bag of goodies containing fruits, candies and cigarettes for the men. Members will bring added pleasure by serving as hostesses. By sharing their time on this one afternoon, Sisterhood will bring added joy to the lives of their guests, thereby helping them to regain their health. A donation of money does not serve as a substitute for your personal cheerful service.

Remember the date—Thursday, May 20th, at 12:30 p.m. at the foot of 79th Street and East River Drive. Let us make it a 100% Sisterhood turnout for the Welfare Island Party.

### Final Meeting May 18th

The next Sisterhood meeting, which is to be the final meeting of the year, will take place on Tuesday, May 18th, at 1:30 p.m. This meeting promises to be a most interesting closing event with the installation of officers, reading of the annual reports and concluding with a specially planned program of entertainment.

will find that she can spare at least one dollar a week. The poorest women in America are proving daily that it can be done, and they are happy and proud to do it.

The UJA committee will contact the women of the Park Avenue Synagogue for these sums. If, by any chance, you are not contacted within the next few weeks, you are asked to call Mrs. Brodsky at Atwater 9-4096, or to communicate with her at her home, 1100 Park Avenue.

## Parents' Assoc. To Hold Elections On May 12th

The final open meeting of the Parents' Association will be held on Wednesday evening, May 12th at 8:30 p.m. in the Vestry. As this time a unique and interesting program will be presented. Mr. Edwin Schoffman, director of club activities for the Park Avenue Synagogue and a student at the Jewish Theological Seminary will discuss briefly, "Dramatic Arts In Jewish Education". After his talk, he will show a film entitled, "The Return Of The Golem", a production which he directed. This movie is an initial step in the development of a new technique in Jewish education, namely, the filming of Jewish legends and stories.

The election and installation of officers for the coming season will also take place at that time. Mrs. Henry Howe, president, has announced that she plans to present a summation of her three years of activity as presiding officer of the Parents' Association.

The following nominations were presented by the committee: For President, Mrs. Abram Blau; 1st Vice-Pres., Mrs. I. B. Brodsky; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mr. A. Kirshon; 3rd Vice-Pres., Mrs. S. Wimpfheimer; Rec. Secretary, Mrs. T. Kaplan; Cor. Secretary, Mrs. M. Helper; Treasurer, Mrs. M. Selig; U.P.A. Delegates, Mr. I. E. Gevirtz, Chairman, Mrs. A. Gotterer; Alternates, Mrs. M. Helper, Mrs. M. Kaplan.

## Musical Service

(Continued from Page 1)

spring up...the Jews who will it will have their State..."; and the poem "Blessed is the Match", written by one of the most heroic Palestinian martyrs of our day, Hana Senesch.

The composers whose works will receive their first world premiere performance from manuscript are Jacob Avshalomoff, Suzanne Bloch, Henry Brant, David Diamond, Yedidia Gorochoff, Douglas Moore, Jacob Schonberg, and Robert Starer. Compositions by Leonard Bernstein, Ernest Bloch, Castelnuovo-Tedesco, Darius Milhaud and Kurt Weill will be repeated from previous programs.

Members of the congregation and their friends are urged to attend. Admission is by ticket only. Tickets are free and may be obtained upon written request to the Synagogue office.



## Magician To Be Guest At Junior League Meeting

The very successful season of the Junior League will close on Sunday evening, May 16th, when the League will have Mr. Theo Doré, renowned magician as the feature of its final open meeting. Mr. Doré has recently appeared at the YMHA and numerous fraternal organizations. His feats of magic promise to make this final meeting a fitting climax to the League's excellent season. This meeting will take place in the Vestry at 8:30 p.m. The admission charge will be \$1.00 per person with a social and refreshments to follow the performance.

The Annual Cocktail Dance, under the co-chairmanship of the Misses Hortense Levy and Selma Jerskey and Mr. Harry Lewis, held on Sunday, April 18th, at the Hotel Pierre was easily the most successful affair of the year. A gathering of over 550 young men and women enabled the Junior League to donate \$1,500 to the Junior Division of the United Jewish Appeal, which is the largest sum the Junior League has ever given. The League would also like to thank the various congregants who answered so generously their letter regarding the television set. For those who have not as yet heard the good news, Mrs. Irma Heller, past President of the Sisterhood and one of the congregation's most active members, was the winner of the Television set awarded at the dance. There was also an additional prize in the form of a portable radio.

## Testimonial Program

(continued from page 1)

ling most of his material from Rabbi Steinberg's own writings. This will be presented under the direction of Mrs. Clara Ostriker, who has chosen the cast from members of the congregation. Rabbi Kertzer will open and close the proceedings with prayer. This will be one of the outstanding events in the history of the Congregation, and will give synagogue members the opportunity they have long sought, to express their appreciation and affection for the Synagogue's leaders, who have acknowledgedly helped to make The Park Avenue Synagogue one of the leading congregations in the country.

## Will You Attend?

### Teen-Agers

Jamboree, Vestry, Saturday, May 8th, 7:45 p.m.

### Parents' Association

Meeting, Vestry, Wednesday, May 12th, 8:30 p.m.

### Junior League

Meeting, Vestry, Sunday, May 16th, 8:30 p.m.

### Young Marrieds "B"

Meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Warshaw, 350 East 77th St., Tuesday, May 18th, 8:30 p.m.

### Sisterhood

Meeting, Vestry, May 18th, 1:30 p.m.

### Births

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Marvin on the birth of a son, and to the proud grandparents, Judge and Mrs. Benjamin Marvin; to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hill on the birth of their daughter; to Mr. and Mrs. Alex Grodnick on the birth of their grandson; to Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Levey on the birth of their grandson; to Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Schaper on the birth of a son and to the grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Cohen.

### Engagement

Best wishes to Mr and Mrs. Jerome J. Oppenheimer on the engagement of their son, Wallace, to Miss Ruth Kohl.

### Marriage

Congratulations to Mrs. Priscilla Wohl on the marriage of her niece, Isabel Rosen, to Mr. Norman Cohen on March 14th.

### Birthday

Our best wishes to Mrs. Benjamin Blumenthal who celebrated her 75th birthday on May 3rd.

### Deaths

The Synagogue extends its condolences to Mrs. Ruth Abrams on the loss of her mother, Mrs. Eliza Landman; to Mrs. Rose Blondheim on the loss of her father; to Mr. Isidore Geller on the loss of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Gussie Aaronson; to Mrs. Emma Heller on the loss of her husband, Mr. Isidore P. Heller; to Mrs. Muriel Levy on the loss of her father, Mr. William Mittleman; to Mrs. N. Rosenbusch on the loss of her brother-in-law, Mr. Herman Haas; and to Mr. Barney Schlinger on the death of his brother, Mr. Louis Schlinger.

## Young Marrieds Discuss Present Haganah Role

An interesting discussion on the current situation in Palestine and the role of Haganah was held by Young Marrieds "B" at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Metzger on Wednesday evening, April 21st. Rabbi Morris N. Kertzer led the discussion and provided a wealth of entertaining informative material. Interest centered on the relative strengths of the opposing factions in Palestine and speculation was rife as to the ultimate course of the British Government.

The next meeting of the group will take place on Tuesday evening, May 18th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold E. Warshaw, 350 East 77th Street at 8:30 p.m. Rabbi Milton Steinberg is to be the guest for the evening and will lead the discussion.

## Confirmation Plans

Confirmation services which will take place on Sunday morning, June 13th, are now being planned. The confirmants are busily engaged in preparing a special "Eternal Light" program for the service. The presentation, based on the *Shabuot* theme is: "A Goodly Portion". Mrs. Alex Ostriker is Director of the group.

A Supper Dance for the confirmants will be held on Saturday evening, May 22nd, in the Vestry. Mrs. A. Gotterer, chairman of the mothers of the confirmants, has announced that each confirmant will be asked to invite an escort and another couple.

### THE PARK AVENUE SYNAGOGUE

MILTON STEINBERG

MORRIS N. KERTZER

*Rabbis*

DAVID J. PUTTERMAN

*Cantor*

DR. E. D. FRIEDMAN

*President*

SAMUEL KOGAN

*Vice-President*

BENJAMIN SACK

*Chairman, Board of Trustees*

EZRA COHEN

*Vice-Chairman, Board of Trustees*

EMANUEL ROSENTHAL

*Secretary*

GEORGE ARMOUR

*Treasurer*

ARTHUR OCHS

*Asst. Treasurer*

MORTIMER D. MILHEISER

*Sexton*

*Address all communications to  
EMANUEL ROSENTHAL, Secretary*

P L E A S E   N O T E

A misunderstanding seems to have arisen in the minds of some members as to the program of the 15th Anniversary Testimonial.

Therefore the Testimonial Committee wishes to make it clear that the Reception at 7:15 P.M. next Sunday evening in honor of Rabbi Steinberg and Cantor Putterman is intended as an AFTER DINNER event. It will be followed immediately and without intermission by the Exercises in the Synagogue.

